

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-06 EUR-12 NEA-10

FEA-01 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06

PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 /131 W

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FM USDEL MTN GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 336

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MTN GENEVA 5953

PASS STR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GATT

SUBJECT: MTN TARIFFS GROUP: STUDY OF EFFECTS ON LDCS OF TARIFF
REDUCTION FORMULA

REF: MTN GENEVA 5477

1. AS NOTED PARA 7 REFTTEL, TARIFFS GROUP (WITH U.S. RE-SERVING) AGREED TO ENTRUST SECRETARIAT TO PREPARE SYSTEM FOR RAPID EVALUATION OF EFFECTS OF TARIFF REDUCTION FORMULAE ON EXPORTS OF LDCS TO DCS WHEN FORMULAE FORMALLY PROPOSED.

2. IN INFORMAL MEETING TO DISCUSS QUESTION ON JULY 24, DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL MATHUR INDICATED SECRETARIAT PROPOSED AN ARRAY LAONG LINES ITS MFN/GSP STUDY DATED DECEMBER 1974 (GRAY BOOKS) AND ASKED

A. WHAT LEVEL OF AGGREGATION (BTN, LINE ITEMS,
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GROUPINGS?)

B. WHAT PRODUCT COVERAGE?

C. SHOULD ATTEMPT BE MADE TO MEASURE EFFECTS ON
FUTURE TRADE FLOWS OF CHANGES IN PREFERENCE MARGINS?
IF SO, GIVEN RANGE OF ELASTICITY OF IMPORT DEMAND
ASSUMPTIONS, SHOULD ONE SET OF ELASTICITIES BE USED
OR RANGE?

D. HOW MEASURE BENEFITS AND LOSSES OF MFN REDUC-
TIONS COMPARED TO GSP REDUCTIONS OF PREFERENCE MARGINS?

E. HOW CAN DYNAMIC EFFECTS (E.G. INCOME GROWTH
AND ITS EFFECT ON PATTERN OF IMPORTS) BE TREATED?

3. ARGENTINA (ONLY LDC WHICH SPOKE) SAID BETTER TO
CONCENTRATE NOW ON TYPE OF SYSTEM AND LATER DECIDE HOW
IT SHOULD BE USED, DATA SHOULD BE PRESENTED AT TARIFF
LINE LEVEL, ALL PRODUCTS (BTN 1-99) SHOULD BE INCLUDED,
AND SUGGESTED SECRETARIAT PREPARE SAMPLE PRINTOUT
WHICH INFORMAL GROUP COULD DISCUSS IN SEPTEMBER.

4. EC AGREED TARIFF LINE LEVEL MOST USEFUL, MADE SEVERAL
TECHNICAL SUGGESTIONS, USED OPPORTUNITY TO EXPOUND ON
VIRTUES OF ITS $Y = X$ FORMULA, QUOTE ITERATED
TWO OR THREE TIMES UNQUOTE, AND SAID QUESTION OF
PRODUCT COVERAGE RAISES QUESTION OF COMPETENCE OF
TARIFFS GROUP TO CONSIDER AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.

5. U.S. OBSERVED THAT TARIFFS GROUP CHAIRMAN'S
SUMMING-UP RECORDING DECISION IN PRINCIPLE OF
GROUP TO CONDUCT STUDY MADE NO DISTINCTION BETWEEN
AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS. STUDY MUST
COVER BTN 1-99.

6. GROUP AGREED TO ARGENTINE SUGGESTION THAT SECRE-
TARIAT SHOULD PREPARE SAMPLE PRINTOUT FOR FURTHER
CONSIDERATION IN SEPTEMBER. MCNAMARA

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